## Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

In the matter of:	) CG Docket No. 02-2	78
	)	
Petition of Amicus Mediation &	) CG Docket No. 05-3	38
Arbitration Group, Inc., and Hillary	)	
Earle for Waiver of the "Opt Out"	)	
Requirement Pursuant to FCC Order	)	
14-164	)	

#### PETITION FOR WAIVER REGARDING 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv)

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Dated: November 13, 2014

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group, Inc. ("Amicus") is a small family business that is currently the target of a putative class action lawsuit alleging violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991 ("TCPA") for the alleged transmission of "well over 5000" "unsolicited and/or solicited" facsimile advertisements that did not contain proper opt out notices.<sup>1</sup>

While Plaintiff Roger H. Kaye and Roger H. Kaye, MD PC (collectively, "Kaye") interpreted 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) to mean that the opt-out notice requirements pertained equally to solicited and unsolicited faxes, Amicus reasonably believed that faxes sent with the prior express permission of the recipient were not required to comply with that provision.

Due to widespread confusion regarding this issue, the Federal Communications Commission ("Commission" or "FCC") recently considered the issue and ruled that "parties who have sent fax ads with the recipient's prior express permission may have reasonably been uncertain about whether [the Commission's] requirement for out-out notices applied to them." FCC 14-164, ¶ 1. Although ultimately deciding that the opt-out requirements pertain equally to solicited and unsolicited faxes, the Commission pointed out that an inconsistent footnote in a previous order, as well as notice procedures that did not make clear that the opt-out notices would apply to solicited faxes, constituted good cause to issue retroactive waivers to the petitioners of the opt-out requirements for solicited faxes. FCC 14-164, ¶¶ 22-28. The Commission stated further that "[o]ther, similarly situated parties, may also seek waivers such as those granted in this Order." FCC 14-164, ¶¶2, 30.

Amicus is a "similarly situated party" and for good cause shown, Amicus respectfully requests that, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 1.3, the Commission grant retroactive waivers of Section

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Complaint filed by Roger H. Kaye is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

64.1200(a)(4)(iv) with respect to the faxes that have been transmitted by Petitioner with the prior express permission of the recipients.

# Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

In the matter of:	)	CG Docket No. 02-278
	)	
Petition of Amicus Mediation &	)	CG Docket No. 05-338
Arbitration Group, Inc., and Hillary	)	
Earle for Waiver Regarding 47 C.F.R. §	)	
64.1200(a)(4)(iv) Pursuant to FCC Order	)	
14-164	)	

#### PETITION FOR WAIVER REGARDING 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv)

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 1.3, Petitioners Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group, Inc., and Hillary Earle (collectively "Amicus" or "Petitioners") respectfully request that the Commission grant Amicus a retroactive waiver of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) with respect to faxes that have been transmitted by or on behalf of Amicus, as described in the Commission's recent Order at FCC 14-164, ¶¶ 2, 30.

#### I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

#### A. Kaye v. Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group, Inc.

Hillary Earle established and incorporated Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group, Inc. in 2008 as a family business. Besides Ms. Earle, the only other corporate officer is her husband, and, at all times relevant to the Kaye complaint, Amicus had no employees other than Ms. Earle. Amicus never owned a fax machine, and, as a small business trying to contain costs, Amicus elected to do its faxing through an electronic, online fax provider, Rapid Fax, where Amicus manually sent documents via fax to its customers. Rapid Fax allows users to send faxes through email or the Rapid Fax website without the need for the sender to use its own fax machine. All of Amicus' fax numbers are maintained in Amicus' Rapid Fax directory, and, when utilizing Rapid

Fax, Amicus would manually initiate each fax by selecting the name of the recipient from its directory. Besides sending faxes relating to its mediation and arbitration services, Amicus used Rapid Fax to fax information regarding free Continuing Legal Education ("CLE") training for attorneys, to notify clients of mediator training, and was primarily used for general business purposes, such as sending mediation scheduling notices and arbitration contracts and invoices to clients. Thus, the majority of Amicus' fax usage was to communicate with and send relevant business documents to current clients who expressly requested receipt of the faxes.

As business progressed and Amicus continued to schedule mediations, Amicus would send faxes to plaintiffs' attorneys containing information regarding upcoming mediation days. Many of these attorneys had specifically requested this information and provided their fax number to Amicus. Some specified that they wished to receive faxes, with others simply asking for a list of the mediation days or to be "kept in the loop." Amicus did not believe that it was legally required to include an opt-out notice in faxes sent to recipients who gave prior express permission.

In 2013, Roger H. Kaye and Roger H. Kaye, MD PC filed a putative class action lawsuit against Amicus and Earle, alleging violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act.<sup>2</sup> Included in and chief among Kaye's allegations is the allegation that the opt-out notices included on Amicus' *solicited* faxes failed to comply to the technical specifications in 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv). The District Court has certified three classes of plaintiffs against Amicus pursuant to which plaintiff seeks millions of dollars in damages.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Notably, Kaye is a plaintiff in at least six other TCPA class action lawsuits in Connecticut federal court alone. See, Kaye v. EBIO-Metronics, LLC., 3:13-cv-00349 (D. Conn.); Kaye v. Merck & Co., Inc., No. 3:10-cv-1546 (D. Conn.); Kaye v. iHire LLC., No. 3:10-cv-219 (D. Conn.); Kaye v. SDI Health LLC, No. 3:10-cv-1 (D. Conn.); Kaye v. WebMD LLC, Not. 3:09-cv-1948 (D. Conn.); Kaye v. Aesthera Corp., No. 3:09-cv-1947 (D. Conn.).

#### B. The Recent FCC Ruling (FCC 14-164)

The FCC recently addressed the issue regarding the requirement that solicited faxes comply with the opt-out notice provisions of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) in its Order released October 30, 2014. See FCC 14-164. This Order addressed approximately twenty-four petitions of parties in similar situations to that of Amicus because the parties believed that the opt-out notice requirements did not apply to solicited faxes, that is, faxes sent to recipients who had provided prior express consent. See FCC 14-164, generally.

In its order the Commission found that the opt-out notice requirements do in fact apply to solicited faxes. However, the Commission also found that there was understandable, reasonable confusion as to the applicability of this requirement to solicited faxes resulting from an inconsistent footnote in a subsequent Order regarding the opt-out notice requirements, as well as notice issues. See FCC 14-164, ¶¶ 1, 22-30. In addition, the Commission found that it was in the public interest to grant the Petitioners a retroactive waiver of the applicability of the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) to solicited faxes. See id. Lastly, the Commission invited similarly situated parties to request retroactive waivers of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv), prior to April 2015. In so ruling, the Commission clarified the meaning of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) while preventing the inequitable result of exposing companies such as Amicus to lawsuits seeking millions of dollars in damages for inadvertent violations of this requirement due to understandable and reasonable confusion.

#### II. ARGUMENT

Amicus respectfully requests a waiver of compliance with regard to 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) for faxes sent to individuals from whom Amicus had received prior express

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consent. Such waiver would be retroactive to the effective date of the Commission's 2006 Report and Order implementing 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv).

The Commission may waive any of its rules for good cause shown. 47 C.F.R. § 1.3; WAIT Radio v. FCC, 418 F.2d 1153 (D.C. Cir. 1969); Northeast Cellular Tel. Co. v. FCC, 897 F.2d 1164 (D.C. Cir. 1990). See also FCC 14-164, ¶ 23. "A waiver may be granted if: (1) special circumstances warrant a deviation from the general rule and (2) the waiver would better serve the public interest than would application of the rule." FCC 14-164, citing WAIT Radio, 418 F.2d at 1166.

As noted in the Commission's recent order regarding the opt-out requirement, special circumstances exist to warrant deviation from the general rule in this case, since two specific bases exist that led to confusion among parties as to the applicability of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) to faxes sent with the prior express permission of the recipient. FCC 14-164, ¶ 24.

First, although the TCPA itself does not prohibit the sending of solicited faxes, that is, those sent with the recipient's prior express permission, 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) states that "[a] facsimile advertisement that is sent to a recipient that has provided prior express invitation or permission to the sender must include an opt-out notice that complies with the requirements of (a)(3)(iii) of this section." However, the Rules and Regulations Implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991, Junk Fax Prevention Act of 2005 ("Junk Fax Order") stated that "the opt-out notice requirement only applies to communications that constitute *unsolicited* faxes." Junk Fax Order, CG Docket Nos. 02-278, 05-338, 21 FCC Rcd 3787, 3810, n. 154 (emphasis added). These contradictory statements have led to confusion as to the applicability of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) to solicited faxes. See FCC 14-164, ¶ 24 ("The use of the word 'unsolicited'

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in this one instance may have caused some parties to misconstrue the Commission's intent to apply the opt-out notice to fax ads sent with the prior express permission of the recipient.")

In addition to noting the confusion caused by the Junk Fax Order, the Commission has also acknowledged that the notice provided of the Commission's intent to adopt 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv)—while sufficient to satisfy the Administrative Procedure Act—did not make explicit that the Commission contemplated an opt-out requirement on fax ads sent with the prior express permission of the recipient. FCC 14-164, ¶ 25.

Amicus is currently involved in a class action lawsuit, wherein Plaintiff interprets 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) to apply to solicited faxes, and Amicus reasonably believed that opt-out notices were not required to be included in faxes sent to recipients who provided prior express permission. Many, if not all, of the faxes allegedly sent by Amicus were to recipients who had provided prior express consent to receive such faxes. As such, the confusion regarding the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) has exposed Amicus to millions of dollars of liability, and ultimately the loss of its business.

Additionally, it is in the public interest that Amicus be granted a retroactive waiver of the requirements set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) as applied to faxes sent with the prior express permission of the recipient. Amicus' alleged failure to comply with this rule—caused by Amicus' reasonable confusion regarding the Commission's requirements—would potentially subject Amicus to millions of dollars in damages under the TCPA, an amount which would almost certainly end the small business. Thus, a waiver serves the public interest in this case to ensure that any confusion on the part of Amicus does not result in inadvertent violations of the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv). See FCC 14-164, ¶ 27.

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#### III. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Amicus requests a retroactive waiver excusing Amicus from compliance with 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) for any faxes sent by Petitioner with the recipient's prior express consent.

Respectfully submitted,

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Counsel for Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group, Inc., and Hillary Earle

Dated: November 13, 2014

#### Declaration of Hillary Earle

I have read the foregoing Petition, and I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, formed after reasonable inquiry.

Executed on November 2014

Hillary Earle

Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group Inc.

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that on November 13, 2014, a copy of Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group Inc. and Hillary Earle's Petition for Waiver Regarding 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) was served upon counsel of record at the following address via First Class Mail, postage prepaid:

Aytan Y. Bellin, Esq.
Bellin & Associates, LLC
85 Miles Avenue
White Plains, New York 10606

Roger Furman Attorney at Law 7845 Henefer Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90045

The undersigned also hereby certifies that on November 13, 2014, the undersigned caused to be filed, by mail and by electronic service, the foregoing Petition for Waiver Regarding 47 C.F.R. § 64.1200(a)(4)(iv) with the Federal Communications Commission, Office of the Secretary, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Washington, D.C., 20554.

Geraldine A Cheverko

**EXHIBIT A** 

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT

ROGER H. KAYE and ROGER H. KAYE, MD PC, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

Complaint

-vs.-

Compini

AMICUS MEDIATION & ARBITRATION GROUP, INC. and HILLARY EARLE,

Class Action

Jury Demanded

Defendants.

MARCH 14, 2013

#### **COMPLAINT**

Plaintiffs Roger H. Kaye and Roger H. Kaye, MD PC, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, allege as follows:

#### INTRODUCTION

1. Roger H. Kaye and Roger H. Kaye, MD PC (collectively, "Plaintiffs") bring this action against Amicus Mediation and Arbitration Group, Inc. ("Amicus") and Hillary Earle ("Earle") (Amicus and Earle are collectively referred to as "Defendants") for violating the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 (the "TCPA"), and Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-570c. Congress enacted the TCPA in 1991 to prevent the faxing of unsolicited advertisements to persons who had not provided express invitation or permission to receive such faxes. In addition, the TCPA and regulations promulgated pursuant to it prohibit the sending of unsolicited as well as solicited fax advertisements that do not contain properly worded opt-out notices. The Connecticut legislature enacted Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-570c for similar purposes.

2. Upon information and belief, Defendants have jointly and severally caused to be sent out over five thousand (5,000) unsolicited and solicited fax advertisements for goods and/or services without proper opt-out notices to persons throughout the United States, including Connecticut, within applicable limitations periods. As a result, Defendants are liable to Plaintiffs and the proposed Classes of similarly situated persons under the TCPA and Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-570c.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. This Court has federal question jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 47 U.S.C. § 227. This Court also has supplemental jurisdiction, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367, over Plaintiffs' and one of the classes' claims under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-570c.
- 4. Venue in this judicial district is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2), because this is the judicial district in which a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims in this case occurred.

#### THE PARTIES

- Plaintiff Roger H. Kaye is a citizen and resident of the State of Connecticut.
- Plaintiff Roger H. Kaye, MD PC is a Connecticut professional corporation, with its principal place of business located at 30 Stevens Street, Norwalk, Connecticut 06850.
- Upon information and belief, defendant Amicus is a New York
   Corporation, with its principal place of business located at 557 Windmill Avenue, Suite
   West Babylon, New York 11704.

 Upon information and belief, defendant Earle is the Chairman of Amicus and is a resident of New York State.

#### DEFENDANTS' ILLEGAL JUNK FAXES

- At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiffs had telephone service at 30
   Stevens Street, Norwalk, Connecticut 06850, where Plaintiffs receive facsimile transmissions.
- 10. On or about October 17, 2010, January 14, 2011, January 22, 2011, January 30, 2011, June 6, 2011 and June 25, 2011, Defendants, jointly and severally, without Plaintiffs' express invitation or permission, arranged for and/or caused a telephone facsimile machine, computer, or other device to send unsolicited at least six fax advertisements (the "Fax Advertisements") advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services, to Plaintiffs' fax machine located at 30 Stevens Street, Norwalk, Connecticut 06850. Copies of those six Fax Advertisements are attached collectively as Exhibit A and incorporated into this Complaint.
- Plaintiffs did not provide Defendants with express invitation or permission to send any of the Fax Advertisements. The fax advertisements were wholly unsolicited.
- 12. All of the Fax Advertisements contain a notice (the "Opt-Out Notice") that provides:

NOTE: The information contained in this email message is intended only for use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or if you have received this communication in error, or wish to not receive any further emails please immediately notify us notify us [sic] by e-mail at <a href="mailto:hillary.earle@amicusadr.com">hillary.earle@amicusadr.com</a> and destroy the original message. Thank you.

This Opt-Out Notice appears on the first page of some of the Fax Advertisements, and on the second page of the other Fax Advertisements.

- 13. The Opt-Out Notices in the Fax Advertisements violate the TCPA and regulations thereunder because, among other things, they
  - (A) fail to state that a recipient may make a request to the sender not to send any future unsolicited advertisements to the recipient's telephone facsimile machine(s);
  - (B) fail to provide a telephone number to which the recipient may transmit such an opt-out request;
  - fail to provide a facsimile number to which the recipient may transmit such an opt-out request;
  - (D) fail to state that a recipient's request to opt out of future fax advertising will be effective only if the request identifies the telephone number(s) of the recipient's telephone facsimile machine(s) to which the request relates;
  - (E) fail to state that the sender's failure to comply with an opt-out request within 30 days is unlawful;
  - (F) fail to state that a recipient's opt-out request will be effective so long as that person does not, subsequent to making such request, provide express invitation or permission to the sender, in writing or otherwise, to send such advertisements; and
    - (G) do not appear on the first page of the Fax Advertisement.
- 14. Upon information and belief, Defendants either negligently or willfully and/or knowingly arranged for and/or caused the fax advertisements to be sent to Plaintiffs' fax machine.

- 15. Upon information and belief, Defendants have, from four years prior to the date of the filing of the Complaint in this action through the present, either negligently or willfully and/or knowingly sent and/or arranged to be sent well over five thousand (5,000) unsolicited and/or solicited fax advertisements advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services, to fax machines and/or computers belonging to thousands of persons all over the United States. Upon information and belief, those fax advertisements contained a notice identical or substantially similar to the Opt-Out Notice contained in the Fax Advertisements sent to Plaintiffs.
- 16. Upon information and belief, Defendants have, from four years prior to the date of the filing of the Complaint in this action through the present, either negligently or willfully and/or knowingly sent and/or arranged to be sent well over five thousand (5,000) unsolicited fax advertisements advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services, to fax machines and/or computers belonging to thousands of persons throughout the United States. Upon information and belief, those facsimile advertisements contained an opt-out notice identical or substantially similar to the Opt-Out Notice contained in the Fax Advertisements sent to Plaintiffs.
- 17. Upon information and belief, Defendants have, from two years prior to the filing of the Complaint in this action to the present, either negligently or willfully and/or knowingly sent and/or arranged to be sent thousands of *unsolicited* fax advertisements advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services, to fax machines and/or computers belonging to thousands of persons in Connecticut.

#### CLASS ALLEGATIONS

- 18. Plaintiffs bring this class action on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated under rules 23(a) and 23(b)(1)-(3) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- 19. Plaintiffs seek to represent three classes (the "Classes") of individuals, each defined as follows:

Class A: All persons from four years prior to the date of the filing of the Complaint through the present to whom Defendants sent or caused to be sent a *solicited* or unsolicited facsimile advertisement advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services that contained a notice identical or substantially similar to the Opt-Out Notice in the Fax Advertisements sent to Plaintiffs.

Class B: All persons from four years prior to the date of the filing of the Complaint through the present to whom Defendants sent or caused to be sent an *unsolicited* facsimile advertisement advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services that contained a notice identical or substantially similar to the Opt-Out Notice on the Fax Advertisements sent to Plaintiffs.

Class C: All persons in the State of Connecticut to whom, from two years prior to the date of the filing of the Complaint to the present, Defendants sent or caused to be sent a facsimile advertisement without having obtained express invitation or permission to do so.

20. <u>Numerosity</u>: The Classes are so numerous that joinder of all individual members in one action would be impracticable. The disposition of the individual claims of the respective class members through this class action will benefit the parties and this Court. Upon information and belief there are, at a minimum, thousands of class members

of Classes A, B and C. Upon information and belief, the Classes' sizes and the identities of the individual members thereof are ascertainable through Defendants' records, including Defendants' fax and marketing records.

- 21. Members of the Classes may be notified of the pendency of this action by techniques and forms commonly used in class actions, such as by published notice, e-mail notice, website notice, fax notice, first class mail, or combinations thereof, or by other methods suitable to the Classes and deemed necessary and/or appropriate by the Court.
- 22. <u>Typicality</u>: Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the members of Class A because the claims of Plaintiffs and members of Class A are based on the same legal theories and arise from the same unlawful conduct. Among other things, Plaintiffs and members of Class A were sent or caused to be sent by Defendants at least one fax advertisement advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services that contained a notice identical or substantially similar to the Opt-Out Notice in the Fax Advertisements that Defendants sent or caused to be sent to Plaintiffs.
- 23. Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the members of Class B because the claims of Plaintiffs and members of Class B are based on the same legal theories and arise from the same unlawful conduct. Among other things, Plaintiffs and members of Class B were sent or caused to be sent by Defendants, without Plaintiffs' or the Class B members' express permission or invitation, at least one fax advertisement advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services that contained a notice identical or substantially similar to the Opt-Out Notice in the Fax Advertisements that Defendants sent or caused to be sent to Plaintiffs,

- 24. Plaintiffs' claims are typical of the claims of the members of Class C because the claims of the Plaintiffs and members of Class C are based on the same legal theories and arise from the same unlawful conduct. Among other things, Plaintiffs and members of Class C were sent or caused to be sent by Defendants, without Plaintiffs' or the Class C members' express permission or invitation, at least one fax advertisement advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services.
- 25. <u>Common Questions of Fact and Law</u>: There is a well-defined community of common questions of fact and law affecting the Plaintiffs and members of the Classes. The questions of fact and law common to Plaintiffs and Class A predominate over questions that may affect individual members, and include:
  - (a) Whether Defendants' sending and/or causing to be sent to Plaintiffs and the members of Class A, by facsimile, computer or other device, fax advertisements advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods or services that contained a notice identical or substantially similar to the Opt-Out Notice in the Fax Advertisements, violated 47 U.S.C. § 227(b) and the regulations thereunder;
  - (b) Whether Defendants' sending and/or causing to be sent such fax advertisements was knowing or willful;
  - (c) Whether Plaintiffs and the members of Class A are entitled to statutory damages, triple damages and costs for Defendants' conduct; and
  - (d) Whether Plaintiffs and members of Class A are entitled to a permanent injunction enjoining Defendants from continuing to engage in their unlawful conduct.

- 26. The questions of fact and law common to Plaintiffs and Class B predominate over questions that may affect individual members, and include:
  - (a) Whether Defendants' sending and/or causing to be sent to Plaintiffs and the members of Class B, without Plaintiffs' or the Class B members' express invitation or permission, by facsimile, computer or other device, fax advertisements advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services that contained a notice identical or substantially similar to the Opt-Out Notice in the Fax Advertisements, violated 47 U.S.C. § 227(b) and the regulations thereunder;
  - (b) Whether Defendants' sending and/or causing to be sent to Plaintiffs and the members of Class B such unsolicited fax advertisements was knowing or willful;
  - (c) Whether Plaintiffs and the members of Class B are entitled to statutory damages, triple damages and costs for Defendants' conduct; and
  - (d) Whether Plaintiffs and members of Class B are entitled to a permanent injunction enjoining Defendants from continuing to engage in their unlawful conduct.
- 27. The questions of fact and law common to Plaintiffs and Class C predominate over questions that may affect individual members, and include:
  - (a) Whether Defendants' sending and/or causing to be sent to Plaintiffs and the members of Class C, without Plaintiffs' and class C's express invitation or permission, by facsimile, computer or other device, fax advertisements advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services, violated Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 52-570c(a);

- (b) Whether Plaintiffs and the members of Class C are entitled to statutory damages for Defendants' conduct; and
- (c) Whether Plaintiffs and members of Class C are entitled to a permanent injunction enjoining Defendants from continuing to engage in their unlawful conduct.
- 28. Adequacy of Representation: Plaintiffs are adequate representatives of the Classes because their interests do not conflict with the interests of the members of the Classes. Plaintiffs will fairly, adequately and vigorously represent and protect the interests of the members of the Classes and have no interests antagonistic to the members of the Classes. Plaintiffs have retained counsel who are competent and experienced in litigation in the federal courts, class action litigation, and TCPA cases.
- 29. <u>Superiority</u>: A class action is superior to other available means for the fair and efficient adjudication of the Classes' claims. While the aggregate damages that may be awarded to the members of the Classes are likely to be substantial, the damages suffered by individual members of the Classes are relatively small. The expense and burden of individual litigation makes it economically infeasible and procedurally impracticable for each member of the Classes to individually seek redress for the wrongs done to them. The likelihood of the individual Class members' prosecuting separate claims is remote. Plaintiffs are unaware of any other litigation concerning this controversy already commenced against Defendants by any member of the Classes.
- 30. Individualized litigation also would present the potential for varying, inconsistent or contradictory judgments, and would increase the delay and expense to all parties and the court system resulting from multiple trials of the same factual issues. The conduct of this matter as a class action presents fewer management difficulties, conserves

the resources of the parties and the court system, and would protect the rights of each member of the Classes. Plaintiffs know of no difficulty to be encountered in the management of this action that would preclude its maintenance as a class action.

31. <u>Injunctive Relief</u>: Defendants have acted on grounds generally applicable to the members of the Classes, thereby making appropriate final injunctive relief with respect to the Classes as a whole.

#### FIRST CLAIM FOR VIOLATION OF THE TCPA

- Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1-31.
- 33. By the conduct described above, Defendants committed more than five thousand (5,000) violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b) against Plaintiffs and the members of Class A, to wit: the fax advertisements Defendants sent and/or caused to be sent to Plaintiffs and the members of Class A were either (a) unsolicited and did not contain a notice meeting the requirements of the TCPA and regulations thereunder, or (b) solicited and did not contain a notice meeting the requirements of the TCPA and regulations thereunder.
- 34. Plaintiffs and the members of Class A are entitled to statutory damages under 47 U.S.C. § 227(b) in an amount greater than two million, five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000).
- 35. If it is found that Defendants willfully and/or knowingly sent and/or caused to be sent fax advertisements that did not contain a notice meeting the requirements of the TCPA and regulations thereunder to Plaintiffs and the members of Class A, Plaintiffs request that the Court increase the damage award against Defendants

to three times the amount available under 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B), as authorized by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3).

#### SECOND CLAIM FOR VIOLATION OF THE TCPA

- Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1-31.
- 37. By the conduct described above, Defendants committed more than five thousand (5,000) violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b) against Plaintiffs and the members of Class B, to wit: the fax advertisements Defendants sent and/or caused to be sent to Plaintiffs and the members of Class B were unsolicited and did not contain notices satisfying the requirements of the TCPA and regulations thereunder.
- 38. Plaintiffs and the members of Class B are entitled to statutory damages under 47 U.S.C. § 227(b) in an amount greater than two million, five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000).
- 39. If it is found that Defendants willfully and/or knowingly sent and/or caused to be sent unsolicited fax advertisements that did not contain a notice satisfying the requirements of the TCPA and regulations thereunder to Plaintiffs and the members of Class B, Plaintiffs request that the Court increase the damage award against Defendants to three times the amount available under 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B), as authorized by 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3).

#### THIRD CLAIM FOR VIOLATION OF CONN. GEN. STAT. § 52-570(c)

- 40. Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1-31.
- 41. By the conduct described above, Defendants committed numerous violations of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-570c against Plaintiffs and the members of Class C, to

wit: the fax advertisements Defendants sent and/or caused to be sent to Plaintiffs and the members of Class C were unsolicited by Plaintiffs and the members of Class C.

42. Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-570c(d), Plaintiffs and the members of Class C are entitled to statutory damages in an amount to be determined at trial, plus their attorneys' fees and costs.

#### FOURTH CLAIM FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

- Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1-31.
- Defendants committed thousands of violations of 47 U.S.C. § 227(b) and
   Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-570c(a).
- 45. Under 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(A) and Conn. Gen. Stat. § 52-570c(d), Plaintiffs and the members of the Classes are entitled to an injunction against Defendants, prohibiting Defendants from committing further violations of those statutes and regulations thereunder.

#### REQUEST FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the members of the Classes, request:

- A. An order certifying the Classes, appointing Plaintiffs as the representatives of the Classes, and appointing the lawyers and law firms representing Plaintiffs as counsel for the Classes;
- B. an award to Plaintiffs and the members of Classes A and B of statutory damages in excess of \$2,500,000 for each of Classes A and B, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b), for Defendants' violations of that statute and the regulations promulgated thereunder;

if it is found that Defendants willfully and/or knowingly sent and/or caused to be sent fax advertisements to classes A and/or B, an award of three times the

amount of damages described in the previous paragraph, as authorized by 47 U.S.C. §

227(b)(3);

C.

D. an award to Plaintiffs and the members of Class C of statutory damages of

\$500 per violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. 52-570c(a) in an aggregate amount to be

determined at trial;

E. an injunction against Defendants prohibiting them and all others acting on

behalf of or in concert with them from committing further violations of statutes and

regulations described above;

F. an award to Plaintiffs and the members of Class C of attorneys' fees and

costs in this action; and

G. such further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

#### JURY DEMAND

Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury.

ROGER H. KAYE and ROGER H. KAYE, MD PC, ON BEHALF OF THEMSELVES AND ALL OTHERS SIMILARLY SITUATED

By: /s/Aytan Y. Bellin

Aytan Y. Bellin ct28454 Bellin & Associates LLC

85 Miles Avenue

White Plains, NY 10606

(914) 358-5345 Fax: (212) 571-0284

aytan.bellin@bellinlaw.com

Roger Furman, Esq.

(motion for admission pro hac vice to this Court to be filed shortly)

#### Case 3:13-cv-00347-JCH Document 1 Filed 03/14/13 Page 15 of 15

7485 Henefer Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90045 (310) 568-0640 Fax: (310) 694-9083 roger.furman@yahoo.com

## EXHIBIT A

Received Fax: Jun 25 2011 10:42AM Fax Station: Roger H. Kaye, MD, PC
Case 3:13-cv-00347-JCH Document 1-1 Filed 03/14/13 Page 2 of 11

06/25/11 10:57AM EDT Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group -> Roger Kaye 2038663660 Pg 2/2



### **Upcoming Amicus Mediation Days**



**Liberty Mutual** 

July 20, 2011-Mediator: William Beckert, Esq. August 4, 2011 - Mediator: Gerald Cooper, Esq.

### **PROGRESSIVE**

**Progressive Insurance** 

August 30th & September 8th, 2011

Mediators: Rick Mahoney, Esq. Bill Beckert, Esq. & Frank Forgione, Esq.

If you have a case that you wish to schedule, please contact Hillary Earle at 888-7-AMICUS or via email at hillary.earle@amicusadr.com. Or provide your case information below and return via fax to 631-619-9501. An Amicus consultant will follow up with you promptly.

Your Name:	Your Firm/Company:	Your Phone:
Case Caption:		12-1-1
Name of opposing counsel/adjuster	Their Phone	
Claim No.		
Additional Comments:		
Additional Comments.		

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#### Received Fax: Roger H. Kave. MD. PC Case 3:13-cV-U0347-JCH Document 1-1 Filed 03/14/13 Page 3 of 11

06/06/11 08:32PM EDT Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group -> Roger Kaye 2038663660 Pg 1/2

### **Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group**

Phone: 631-881-0882 Fax: 631-619-9501



To: Roger Kaye From: Hillary Earle		
Fax: 2038683660	Pages: 2	50 (g)
Re: Liberty Mutual Mediatione	Date: June 06, 2011	

Dear Roger:

I thought you may be interested in the details of our next mediation days with Liberty Mutual.

Please let me know if you have any cases pending with them that you would like to mediate.

Thank you.

06/06/11 08:32PM EDT Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group -> Roger Kaye 2038663660 Pg 2/2



Liberty Mutual Mediation Day

Coordinated by Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group

Did you know? 78% of all cases mediated, settle? Saving on average, 89 staff hours per file,

\$11,000 in expenses and 6 months in litigation time?

June 15, 2011

Mediator: Gerald Cooper, Esq.

July 20, 2011

Mediator: William Beckert, Esq.

Conferences to be scheduled at:

Liberty Mutual 101 Barnes Rd. Wallingford, CT SPECIAL OFFER \$350.00

Mediation Fee

(This is a per party fee and covers I hour of the mediator's time)

If you have a case that you wish to schedule, please contact Hillary Earle at 888-7-AMICUS or 631-881-0882 or via email at hillary.earle@amicusadr.com. Or provide your case information below and return via fax to 631-619-9501. An Amicus consultant will follow up with you promptly.

Your Name:	Your Firm/Company:	Your Phone:
Case Caption:		
Name of opposing counsel/adjuster	Their Phone	Claim No. (if applicable)
Additional Comments:		

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#### Received Fax: Jan 22 2011 12:34PM Fax Station: Roger H, Kaye, MD, PC Case 3:13-cv-0034/-UCH Document 1-1 Filed 03/14/13 Page 5 or 1

01/22/11 11:44AM EST Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group -> Roger Kaye 2038663660 Pg 1/2

### **Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group**

Phone: 631-881-0882 Fax: 631-619-9501



To: Roger Kaye	From: Hillary Earle	
Fax: 2038663660	Pages: 2	Ŧ
Re: Liberty Mutual Day	Date: January 22, 2011	. %

Dear Roger

I wanted to forward you the details or our upcoming mediation day with Liberty Mutual.

Please let me know if you have any matters pending against them, that you would like to resolve via mediation.

Thank you.

01/22/11 11:44AM EST Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group -> Roger Kaye 2038663860 Pg 2/2

Did you know?

78% of all cases mediated,

settle? Saving on average,

\$11,000 in expenses and 6

months in litigation time?

89 staff hours per file,



Liberty Mutual Mediation Day

Coordinated by Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group

February 17, 2011

Mediator: Frank Forgione, Esq.

Conferences to be scheduled at:

Liberty Mutual 101 Barnes Rd. Wallingford, CT SPECIAL OFFER \$350.00

Mediation Fee (This is a per party fee and covers 1 hour of the mediator's time)

If you have a case that you wish to schedule, please contact Hillary Earle at 888-7-AMICUS or 631-881-0882 or via email at hillary.earle@amicusadr.com. Or provide your case information below and return via fax to 631-619-9501. An Amicus consultant will follow up with you promptly.

Your Name:	Your Firm/Company:	Your Phone:
Case Caption:		
Name of opposing counsel/adjuster	Their Phone	Claim No. (If applicable)
Additional Comments:		

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Received Fax: Jan 14 2011 1:20PM Fax Station: Roger H. Kaye. MD. PC Case 3:13-cv-00347-JCH Document 1-1 Filed 03/14/13 Page 7 of 11

01/14/11 12:30PM EST Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group -> Roger Kaye 2038663660 Pg 1/2

### **Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group**

Phone: 631-881-0882 Fax: 631-619-9501



To: Roger Kaye	From: Hillary Earle	
Fax: 2038663660	Pages: 2	
Re: Liberty Mutual Day	Date: January 14, 2011	

Dear Roger:

I wanted to forward you some information on our upcoming mediation day with Liberty Mutual.

If you have any matters pending with them that you would like to settle via mediation, please let me know.

Thank you.

Case 3:13-cv-00347-JCH Document 1-1 Filed 03/14/13 Page 8 of 11

01/14/11 12:30PM EST Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group -> Roger Kaye 2038663660 Pg 2/2

Did you know?

78% of all cases mediated,

settle? Saving on average,

\$11,000 in expenses and 6

months in litigation time?

89 staff hours per file,



**Liberty Mutual Mediation Day** 

Coordinated by Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group

February 17, 2011

Mediator: Frank Forgione, Esq.

Conferences to be scheduled at:

Liberty Mutual 101 Barnes Rd. Wallingford, CT SPECIAL OFFER \$350.00

Mediation Fee (This is a per party fee and covers 1 hour of the mediator's time)

If you have a case that you wish to schedule, please contact Hillary Earle at 888-7-AMICUS or 631-881-0882 or via email at hillary.earle@amicusadr.com. Or provide your case information below and return via fax to 631-619-9501. An Amicus consultant will follow up with you promptly.

Your Name:	Your Firm/Company:	Your Phone:
Case Caption:		
Name of opposing counsel/adjuster	Their Phone	Claim No. (if applicable)
Additional Comments:	<del></del>	

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Received Fax: Oct 17 2010 11:15AM Fax Station: Roger H. Kaye. MD. PC Case 3:13-cv-00347-UCH Document 1-1 Filed 03/14/13 Page 9 of 1

10/17/10 11:22AM EDT Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group -> Roger Kaye 2038663660 Pg 1/1

AMICUS
MEDIATION & ARRITMATION GROUP, INC.

Did you know? 78% of all cases mediated, settle? Saving on average, 89 staff hours per file, \$11,000 in expenses and 6 months in litigation time?

# Progressive Insurance Mediation Days

Coordinated by Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group

November 17, 2010 - Glastonbury, CT

Mediator:

Hon. Joseph Mengacci

November 18, 2010 - Milford, CT

Mediator:

Hon. Frank Forgione

SPECIAL OFFER \$350.00

Mediation Fee (This is a per party fee and covers 1 hour of the mediator's time)

If you have a case that you wish to schedule, please contact Hillary Earle at 888-7-AMICUS or via email at hillary earle@amicusadr.com. Or provide your case information below and return via fax to 631-619-9501. An Amicus consultant will follow up with you promptly.

Your Name:	Your Firm/Company:	Your Phone:	
Case Caption:	**************************************		====
Name of opposing counsel/adjuster	Their Phone		
Claim No.			
Additional Comments:			

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01/30/11 12:32PM EST Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group -> Roger Kaye 2038663660 Pg 2/3



Mediation Fact:

Did you know?

78% of all cases mediated, settle? Saving on average, 89 staff hours per file, \$11,000 in expenses and 6 months in litigation time.

## **PROGRESSIVE**

## **Mediation Days**

Coordinated by Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group

March 2, 2011 - Milford Office

March 3, 2011 - Glastonbury Office

Mediators:

Frank Forgione & Rick Mahoney

SPECIAL OFFER

\$350.00

Mediation Fee
(This is a per party fee
and covers 1 hour of the
mediator's time)

If you have a case that you wish to schedule, please contact Hillary Earle at 888-7-AMICUS or via email at hillary earle@amicusadr.com. Or provide your case information below and return via fax to 631-619-9501. An Amicus consultant will follow up with you promptly.

Your Name:	Your Firm/Company:	Your Phone:
Case Caption:		
Name of opposing counsel/adjuster	Their Phone	
Claim No.		
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		4

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SPECIAL OFFER \$350,00 Mediation Fee

(This is a per party fee and covers 1 hour

of the mediator's time



## Nationwide Insurance Mediation Day

Coordinated by Amicus Mediation & Arbitration Group

March 29, 2011

Mediator - Gerald Cooper, Esq. & William Beckert, Esq.

Conferences to be held at Bridgeport Holiday Inn 1070 Main Street - Bridgeport, CT 06604

If you have a case that you wish to schedule, please contact Hillary Earle at 888-7-AMICUS or via email at hillary.earle@amicusadr.com. Or provide your case information below and return via fax to 631-619-9501. An Amicus consultant will follow up with you promptly.

Your Name:	10	Your Firm/Company:	Your Phone:	
Case Caption:				
Name of opposing counsel/adjuster	4	Their Phone		_
Claim No.	-			
Additional Comments:				7

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#### Case 3:13-cv-00347-JCH Document 1-2 Filed 03/14/13 Page 1 of 1

JS 44 (Rev. 12/12)

#### CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Roger H. Kaye and Roge	er H. Kaye, MD PC		DEFENDANTS Amicus Mediation	& Arbitration Group, Inc.	& Hilary Earle		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Fairfield (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Suffolk				
				(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES C			
			NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.				
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Aytan Y. Bellin, Esq, Bell Plains, NY 10606	Address, and Telephone Number in & Associates LLC, &	7) B5 Miles Avenue Wi	Attorneys (If Known)				
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	ICTION (Place an "X" in C	One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)		
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)	P	TF DEF  1	PTF DEF		
U.S. Government     Defendant	Diversity     (Indicate Citizensh)	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 D 2 Incorporated and I of Business In A			
			Citizen or Subject of a  Foreign Country	3 🗇 3 Foreign Nation	06 06		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			TODE OF THE OWNER OWNER OF THE OWNER OW	I WASHINGTON	OTHER SELECTION		
O 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJUR		☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	OTHER STATUTES  375 False Claims Act		
☐ 120 Marine	☐ 310 Airplane	D 365 Personal Injury -	of Property 21 USC 881	☐ 423 Withdrawal	400 State Reapportionment 410 Anútrust 430 Banks and Banking		
☐ 130 Miller Act ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	☐ 315 Airplane Product Liability	Product Liability  367 Health Care/	☐ 690 Other	28 USC 157			
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	320 Assault, Libel &	Pharmaceutical	1	PROPERTY RIGHTS	☐ 450 Commerce		
& Enforcement of Judgment  151 Medicare Act	Slander  330 Federal Employers'	Personal Injury Product Liability		820 Copyrights 830 Patent	☐ 460 Deportation ☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and		
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability	368 Asbestos Personal		☐ 840 Trademark	Corrupt Organizations		
Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)	☐ 340 Marine ☐ 345 Marine Product	Injury Product Liability	LABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV		
☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability	PERSONAL PROPER	RTY 710 Fair Labor Standards	☐ 861 HIA (1395ff)	☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/		
of Veteran's Benefits	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 355 Motor Vehicle	☐ 370 Other Fraud ☐ 371 Truth in Lending	Act  720 Labor/Management	☐ 862 Black Lung (923) ☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions		
☐ 190 Other Contract	Product Liability	380 Other Personal	Relations	☐ 864 SSID Title XVI	☐ 891 Agricultural Acts		
☐ 195 Contract Product Liability ☐ 196 Franchise	☐ 360 Other Personal Injury	Property Damage  385 Property Damage	☐ 740 Railway Labor Act ☐ 751 Family and Medical	□ 865 RSI (405(g))	893 Environmental Matters     895 Freedom of Information		
	☐ 362 Personal Injury -	Product Liability	Leave Act		Act		
REAL PROPERTY	Medical Malpractice	PRISONER PETITION	☐ 790 Other Labor Litigation  S ☐ 791 Employee Retirement	FEDERAL TAXSUITS	896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure		
☐ 210 Land Condemnation	1 440 Other Civil Rights	Habeas Corpus:	Income Security Act	☐ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	Act/Review or Appeal of		
220 Foreclosure     230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 441 Voting ☐ 442 Employment	☐ 463 Alien Detainee ☐ 510 Motions to Vacate		or Defendant)  871 IRS—Third Party	Agency Decision  950 Constitutionality of		
☐ 240 Torts to Land	1 443 Housing/	Sentence	*	26 USC 7609	State Statutes		
☐ 245 Tort Product Liability ☐ 290 All Other Real Property	Accommodations  445 Amer. w/Disabilities -	530 General 535 Death Penalty	IMMIGRATION	-			
	Employment	Other:	☐ 462 Naturalization Application	1			
	Other Other	540 Mandamus & Othe 550 Civil Rights	er 465 Other Immigration Actions				
	☐ 448 Education	☐ 555 Prison Condition	1535070051				
		☐ 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of					
	moved from 3		J 4 Reinstated or D 5 Transfe				
Proceeding Sta	ate Court	Appellate Court	(specify)		1		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	47 U.S.C. 227		re filing (Do not cite Jurisdictional state	tutes unless diversity):			
	I Brief describtion of c	or caused to be ser	nt unsolicited and solicited fa	ax advertisements to Plai	intiffs and the classes.		
VII. REQUESTED IN CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.			DS CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:				
VIII. RELATED CASI	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER			
DATE			TORNEY OF RECORDO ()	DOORD! HONDER			
03/14/2013		(Tinha)	a last VA				
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		- My MA	- Indian				
RECEIPT # Al	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JU	ALL CONTRACTORS AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF		